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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 19, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 14 totaled an estimated 17.0 billion ton-miles, 10.7 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 2 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 30.6 billion ton-miles, 4.1 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 14 totaled 382,079 cars, 10.1 percent above 1983, and 26.3 percent higher than the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 15.5 percent in the East, 5.1 percent in the South and 9.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were up, led by loadings of motor vehicles and equipment which showed a gain of 6,433 cars or 48.0 percent. All of the 21 groups were up from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 7 totaled 37,792 cars, up 10.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1983 and 65,853 trailers and/or containers, 13.1 percent higher than last year.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/14/84:

	Loadings in Week ended January 14, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	33,186	I	4,681	16.4	I	4,416	15.3
Other farm products	5,315	D	1,112	17.3	I	1,168	28.2
Metallic ores	11,725	I	652	5.9	I	2,239	23.6
Coal	107,940	I	5,150	5.0	I	25,608	31.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,792	I	371	5.0	I	1,588	25.6
Nonmetallic minerals	11,364	I	1,675	17.3	I	2,069	22.3
Grain mill products	12,075	D	398	3.2	I	2,024	20.1
Food and kindred products	11,844	D	392	3.2	I	2,686	29.3
Primary forest products	13,738	D	1,514	9.9	I	1,870	15.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,019	I	445	6.8	I	1,852	35.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,750	D	136	0.9	I	2,042	16.1
Chemicals and allied products	25,199	I	1,425	6.0	I	4,167	19.8
Petroleum products	5,222	I	326	6.7	I	1,156	28.4
Stone, clay and glass products	9,793	I	1,062	12.2	I	1,833	23.0
Coke	4,763	I	844	21.5	I	331	7.5
Metals and products	9,164	I	2,257	32.7	I	1,918	26.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,831	I	6,433	48.0	I	6,452	48.2
Waste and scrap materials	9,832	I	2,759	39.0	I	3,138	46.9
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,505	I	2,344	32.7	I	1,932	25.5
All other carloads	51,768	I	7,983	18.2	I	11,048	27.1
LCL traffic	254	I	58	29.6	I	74	41.1
Total Cars Loaded	382,079	I	34,913	10.1	I	79,611	26.3
Corresponding week of 1983	347,166						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (2 weeks)	684,547	662,070	I 3.4
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 7	13.6	14.1	D 3.2
Week ended January 14	17.0	15.4	I 10.7
2 weeks cumulation	30.6	29.4	I 4.1

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